

House File 2239 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2239

BY ISENHART

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the local food and farm program fund, by
2 making a name change and making an appropriation to the fund
3 to support projects for the development or expansion of food
4 hubs or farming innovation zones.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 267A.2, subsection 4, Code 2014, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. "*Fund*" means the local food and farm ~~program~~ innovation
4 fund created in section 267A.5.

5 Sec. 2. Section 267A.5, Code 2014, is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 **267A.5 Local food and farm ~~program~~ innovation fund.**

8 A local food and farm ~~program~~ innovation fund is created in
9 the state treasury under the control of the department. The
10 fund is separate from the general fund of the state. The fund
11 is composed of moneys appropriated by the general assembly and
12 moneys available to and obtained or accepted by the local food
13 and farm program from the United States government or private
14 sources for placement in the fund. Moneys in the fund shall
15 be used to carry out the purpose and goals of this chapter
16 as provided in section 267A.1, including but not limited to
17 administering the local food and farm program as provided in
18 section 267A.6. The fund shall be managed by the department in
19 consultation with the local food and farm coordinator, under
20 the supervision of the local food and farm program council.

21 **Sec. 3. LOCAL FOOD AND FARM INNOVATION FUND — APPROPRIATION**
22 **TO SUPPORT FOOD HUBS OR FARMING INNOVATION ZONES PROJECTS.**

23 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state
24 to the local food and farm innovation fund created in section
25 267A.5, as amended by this Act, for the fiscal year beginning
26 July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, the following amount,
27 or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes
28 designated:

29 For purposes of supporting food hubs or farming innovation
30 zones projects as provided in this section:

31 \$ 1,000,000

32 2. Moneys appropriated in subsection 1 shall be allocated by
33 the local food and farm program council established pursuant
34 to section 267A.3 to support projects for the development or
35 expansion of food hubs or farming innovation zones in this

1 state.

2 a. A food hub must be a centrally located facility with a
3 business management structure facilitating the aggregation,
4 storage, processing, distribution, or marketing of locally or
5 regionally produced food or food products.

6 b. A farming innovation zone must be a publicly recognized
7 location for research, development, demonstration, and
8 education that does all of the following:

9 (1) Prepares beginning farmers for the production of
10 diversified food products in Iowa for processing, wholesaling,
11 and retailing on a local or regional basis.

12 (2) Fosters the diversification of farm operations in which
13 existing producers are engaged.

14 (3) Supports the creation and expansion of production and
15 market infrastructure for a local foods economy, including but
16 not limited to food hubs.

17 3. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys that remain
18 unencumbered or unobligated at the end of the fiscal year shall
19 not revert but shall remain available to support the purposes
20 of this section for the succeeding fiscal year.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 BILL'S PROVISIONS — NAME CHANGE. This bill changes the name
25 of the local food and farm program fund to the local food and
26 farm innovation fund.

27 BILL'S PROVISIONS — APPROPRIATION. The bill appropriates
28 \$1 million from the general fund of the state to the renamed
29 local food and farm innovation fund for the fiscal year
30 beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, to support
31 projects for the development or expansion of food hubs or
32 farming innovation zones in this state. Any unencumbered
33 or unobligated moneys at the end of the fiscal year are to
34 remain available to support the purposes of this section for
35 the succeeding fiscal year. The bill provides that a food

1 hub must be used to facilitate the aggregation, storage,
2 processing, distribution, or marketing of locally or regionally
3 produced food or food products. The bill provides that a farm
4 innovation zone provides research, development, demonstration,
5 and education to (1) prepare beginning farmers for local
6 production and retailing, (2) foster diversification of farm
7 operations, and (3) support the creation and expansion of
8 infrastructure for a local foods economy.